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are benumbed, or frost-bitten, it is much better to bathe them in very cold water, or even snow and water, than to hold them near a fire; for during the torpid state, there is an accumulation of the sensorial or vital principle, which, when the cold is removed, excites such heat and pain, as, in many instances, to produce high inflammation, and sometimes even mortification.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From November 20, till December 20.

It is often within the power of man to exercise a portion of benevolence, while philanthropy confines kindness to our own species, the divine attribute of benevolence extends to every living creature, and calls to us to alleviate their sufferings. While snow covers the earth, and frost binds up the waters, the feeling heart must pity the distress and strive to give comfort and sustenance to the winged inhabitants of the air, whose lively motions interest, and whose music adds a charm to the rural scene.

Many, driven from their native wilds by the inclemency of the season, seek the plains of Ireland in hopes of finding that comfort which their own country denied them, but scarcely are they arrived, fatigued with the length of their journey, and weak from want of food, ere they experience new calamities. In vain do they seek the silent wood, or trust to generosity for protection, no pangs are felt by the greedy epicure or thoughtless sportsman when innocence and beauty die. It is to innocence and beauty they call for protection, let the youthful hand scatter food and they will give life and happiness to hundreds. Let them guard their rural walks against all destroyers of the feathered tribes, and the consciousness of having done a good action will make the music of the groves awaken ideas which the virtuous alone can enjoy.

Nov. 22. That beautiful evergreen Ivy (*Hedera Helix*, which gives to the venerable ruin a pleasing gloom, and picturesque effect, is now going out of bloom and its flowers are giving place to its black berries which ripen through our coldest winters, and afford a grateful food to Thrushes, Blackbirds &c.

The Thrush and the common Wren continued singing, during mild days, until the 17th of December.

So uncommonly warm was the weather before the 17th, that on the 9th, a Nettle Butterfly (*Papilio Urtica*) appeared, and on the evening of the 10th, Bats were flying about; Heart's ease (*Viola tricolor*) was in flower, Hepaticas (*Anemone hepatica*) Primroses (*Primula vulgaris*) and Black Helcbore (*Helicborus niger*) were expanding their flowers.

On the 20th about Sunrise the clouds exhibited those beautiful tinges of colour so much admired in Italian pictures, and the golden red mistyness through which the distant landscape appeared gave an idea of the glowing atmosphere of a Southern climate.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From November 20, till December 20.

Heap on more wood! the wind is chill;
But let it whistle as it will,
We'll keep our Christmas merry still,
Each age has deem'd the new born year
The fittest time for festal cheer. SCOTT'S MARMION.

During the same period last year we experienced the severest frost that had been known for several years. It began on the 10th of November by a slight Frost which increased gradually to the 22d, when the Thermometer at 9 A. M. stood at 17; at 9 P. M. it was at 26½ from which time it was not observed lower than 24. During that time the ground was on the 27th of November, covered regularly over with snow to the depth of six inches, and on the 9th of December, a solid sheet of Ice covered the Channel from the quay of Belfast so below the dry dock. This season we have had on the

- 21st of November . . . Brilliant, with showers.
- 22, Misty rain—throughout the day.
- 23, Mild pleasant day—with slight showers.
- 24, Mild dark pleasant day.
- 25, Misty rain.
- 26, Dark breezy Morning—misty rain.
- 27, Very wet night, misty wet morning until 1 P. M.
- 28, Misty day; ice in the Morning $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch thick.
- 29, Wet night, very misty morning, afterwards a wet day.
- 30, Windy, Brilliant, with showers.

1st December, . . .	Breezy, Brilliant, with showers.
2,	Same.
3,	Very stormy wet night. Brilliant breezy day, with show- [ers.
4,	Brilliant pleasant day.
5,	Rain in the night, moist warm day.
6,	Stormy and showery.
7,	Cool clear, and showery.
8,	Mild pleasant day with a trifling misty shower.
9,	Dark wet calm day.
10,	Fine mild day.
11,	Misty dry day.
12, 13	Dark dry pleasant day.
14,	A trifling shower, towards the latter part clear and cold.
15,	Hoar frost in the morning, and thin ice; mild pleasant day.
16,	Ice about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch thick—snow falling—ground covered about 2 inches deep by 3 P. M.
17,	Squalls with large flakes of snow through the day.
18,	Snow showers through the day.
19,	Feeble sun shine—Wind north and boys on the ice.
20,	Pleasant frosty day.

The variation of the Barometer has been very trifling, on the 2d of December it was at 8 A. M. 28.8; during the rest of the time, it ranged from 29.1 to 30, but was on the 15 December as high as 30.4.

On the 5th of December the Thermometer at 8 A. M. was as high as 51, and on the 20th as low as 24, but the whole period may be reckoned warm for the season.

The wind was observed in the Northern points 12 times, in the southern 15, Eastern 3, and Westerly 26.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA,

FOR JANUARY, 1809.

First, the Moon passes the meridian at 36 min. past 11 o'clock, P. M. having been full 30 min. past nine but without an eclipse; at this time we may observe around her many beautiful stars, but whose brilliancy is diminished by her superior splendor; almost south of her a little west of the meridian is the 3d. star of the Twins, and considerably south is Sirius, the brightest star in the heavens; Orion is near the meridian on the same side. On the East we may see Castor and Pollux, Procyon, Alphard, Regulus, Denebola, Cor Caroli, &c. forming, if the night be clear and frosty, a beautiful sight even to the superficial observer, but much more so to the Astronomer.

Fifth, She passes our meridian at 5 min. past 2 A. M. at which time Regulus is a little north west of her, Denebola, in the Lion's Tail, north east and Spica in the Virgin at a greater distance south east, and at midnight she is distant from this star $47^{\circ} 39'$, and from Pollux $44^{\circ} 25'$.

Tenth, she rises in the morning at a considerable distance under the first star of the Virgin, and Mars having passed near this star about noon on the 9th, she is soon followed by Herschell, who is now near the first of the Balance and towards which she is now directing her course.

Fifteenth, She passes the meridian at 37 min. past 11 A. M. and on the 16th is new Moon at 46 min. past, 0 A. M.

Twentieth, The two beautiful planets, Jupiter and Venus, are considerably below the Moon at 6, she is $56^{\circ} 7'$ from Aldebaran and $58^{\circ} 46'$ from the Sun.

Twenty-fifth, She passes the meridian, at 58 min. past 6, P. M. being near the line between the Pleiades and Aldebaran, the former stars being above her to the west and the latter below her to the east of the meridian, at 6, she is $52^{\circ} 4'$ and at 9, $50^{\circ} 38'$ from Pollux.

Thirtieth, She passes the meridian 2 min. past 11, P. M. having above her the two small stars in the Nebula in the Crab, in and below her the small stars in the head of Hydra, but her superior splendor will scarcely permit them to be seen.

Mars is in his superior conjunction on the 19th, and of course is too near the sun to be seen.

Venus and Jupiter are evening stars; the brilliancy of the former during this month cannot fail to arrest the attention of the curious, particularly on clear frosty evenings; The latter still appears very beautiful.

Mars, passes our meridian on the 1st at half past 5 A. M. and on the 25th at 25 min. P. 4.

Saturn is a morning star, he passes our meridian on the 1st, at 39 min. past 8 A. M. and on the 25th at 5 min. past 7.

Herschell is a morning star and is on the meridian on the first at 17 min. past 7 A. M. and on the 21st at 31 min. past 6.